



**DECLARATION OF SUSAN SISSMAN**

1.. My name is Mrs. Susan Sissman. I am the director of the Broward County Branch of Daily Bread Food Bank, Inc., located at 1500 SE 24th Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, 33316. I reside at 1490 Lakeview Circle, Coral Springs, Florida, 33071.

2. I have resided in the Miami area since 1989. I am submitting this Declaration to provide the Federal Communications Commission with my testimony concerning the contribution to the community's welfare made by TV station WHFT-TV, Miami, during its last license term (February 1, 1987-February 1, 1992).

3. The Daily Bread Food Bank, Inc. is a nonprofit, publicly supported charitable organization with facilities in Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach. Our organization solicits and stores foodstuffs, which it distributes through various cooperating food programs that feed indigent or homeless people. Clients do not come to our organization, our role is to collect and distribute food and other goods to residential food programs and food pantries, which actually distribute the food. In conjunction with my work, I am also: a board member of the Broward County Coalition for the Homeless; a co-chairman of VOAD (Volunteer Organizations Active In Disaster); and a member of the advisory board of the Extended Food and Nutrition Program of Broward County Extension Service.

4. I am aware of the good work being done by channel 45's "His Hand Extended" (HHE) ministry. While I have heard that HHE solicits on the air to collect food and other necessities, such as

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clothes, for distribution, HHE often comes to us to receive food for distribution. We, in turn, often refer people with emergency food needs to HHE. We get many calls from persons who are desperate for food or other help, and we refer them to an emergency aid agency in their community. As an emergency aid agency, HHE is intended to serve as an emergency or stop gap resource until the person can be helped by other long term aid agencies or programs. In keeping with the emergency nature of the aid dispensed, we recommend that food pantries such as HHE only provide food to individuals or families on a limited basis. If a person needs food on an extended basis there are governmental programs equipped to deal with long term problems.

5. We have referred many needy people to HHE. I visited HHE in May of 1990 and 1991 to review the operation and talk to the people there. HHE runs a good, clean, well organized and compassionate food pantry. They are responsive to the people who seek their help. In 1990 I was told that HHE feeds roughly 175 to 200 families per month, which is, in my judgement, a very large number of people to service. In May, 1991 I was told that HHE services 55 families per week. Again, that is a large number of families to be serviced by one food pantry.

6. In June of 1991 I was told by HHE that the city of Hollywood discovered that HHE was receiving large packages of rice and pasta and repackaging these staples into smaller and more manageable bags for distribution. Because the food was repackaged, under Hollywood city ordinances HHE became a "food handler" instead

of a "food distributor," and the program was closed down for some time, I think a few months, so that the area in which the food was handled and distributed could be remodeled to meet city requirements for a "food handler." Complying with the City ordinances required the installation of new plumbing and a new sink, and retiling the entire area in which the food was stored. It seemed to me to be an expensive process. The station had to go to a great deal of trouble to meet the city's requirements, and the fact they did so shows a real commitment to service. HHE is now and for years has been providing a vital service to the poor and homeless in the Hollywood area who have nowhere else to go for help. HHE is a vital link in the safety net for the poor residents of Broward County.

**SUPPORTING DECLARATION**

I, Susan Sissman, hereby declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Florida and the United States of America that the forgoing "Declaration of Susan Sissman," consisting of three (3) pages, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Executed this 5 day of August, 1993.

Susan Sissman  
Susan Sissman



**DECLARATION OF JACK THOMPSON**

1. My name is John Bruce "Jack" Thompson. I am self-employed, and work out of my home at 5721 Riviera Drive, Coral Gables, Florida, 33146.

I have been a 17 year resident of the Miami area, and I am submitting this Declaration to provide the Federal Communications Commission with my testimony concerning the contributions to the community's welfare made by WHFT-TV during its last license term (February 1, 1987 to February 1, 1992).

3. I am an Elder of the Presbyterian Church of America, and was the 1988 Republican candidate for Dade County State's Attorney opposing Janet Reno. I have been involved in First Amendment and obscenity issues in Miami and nationally, and I have debated First Amendment and obscenity issues on college campuses. I have appeared on national television to discuss these issues over 30 times. I was court appointed amicus curiae in the federal court proceeding which declared 2 Live Crew's album obscene. I was involved in the effort by an organization called Parents Opposing Propaganda in Schools to remove certain tapes concerning sexual issues from the Dade County School system. I was also the complainant in the first fines for indecency levied by the FCC. I also addressed the 1992 Time-Warner shareholders meeting concerning Ice-T's song, "Copkiller."

4. During the WHFT license term I was asked to appear, and did appear, on the "Praise the Lord--South Florida" program in



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Reporter Ammon

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April and July, 1990, and on "Feedback" in June, 1991. In each instance I was contacted by a member of the station staff, who discussed the issue of pornography with me before booking me on the show. In each instance I was interviewed for roughly one-half hour and I addressed the "2 Live Crew" controversy, the controversy between the county and POPS about the availability of tapes which, in my judgement, condoned and encouraged sexual activity on the part of our young people, and a local shock jock. During the programs I was able to discuss at some length the First Amendment in relation to pornography and other sexually explicit material broadcast on radio and/or television stations, and how the law defined obscenity and indecency. The programs in each instance allowed me to discuss the issue at length and with depth and substance. On each program the program host allowed me to appeal to viewers to become personally involved in the issue and to more carefully monitor the sorts of material to which their children are exposed.

5. The other guests on the programs on which I appeared emphasized local individuals and local ministries serving local needs, with an emphasis at times on the needs and issues in the minority community. For example, one program on which I appeared the other guests included a director of a summer camp for troubled city children who were drug abusers and at risk for drug addiction and an Hispanic individual describing his church's services and outreach ministries to the Hispanic community. Based on the programs on which I appeared, as well as the times I have watched

channel 45 programming, the station has impressed me as a station emphasizing local needs with local people addressing local problems. Perhaps most importantly, unlike programming on other stations in the Miami area, channel 45 programs not only describe the problems facing the community, such as crime and drug abuse, but emphasizes programs and ministries in the community that are having some success in solving those problems. The programming on which I was a guest not only discussed the problems at issue, but were positive in that they offered solutions to the problems.

6. One of the most intractable problems facing the Miami community is the sense of division between the area's various racial and ethnic groups. Channel 45 programming has struck me because it was so genuinely integrated, in terms of the racial and ethnic backgrounds of both the hosts and their guests, in a way that is not often seen in South Florida. For example, on one of the programs during the license term on which I appeared, the host and hostess were African-Americans, I am Anglo, two of the other guests were Hispanic, and one other guest was African-American. People of different races and ethnic groups were shown on the program in a way in which they are seldom seen in South Florida, discussing common problems and talking about common solutions to those problems. Each participant in the program was there because they clearly had something significant to say about a problem or solution to a problem in the community. The program seemed to have a sense of celebration of the rich racial and ethnic diversity of the community, a sense of celebration that is often lacking in

South Florida. Other stations seem to emphasize the division and tensions between racial and ethnic groups, WHFT tries to bring us together.

7. In my experience channel 45 has a good reputation in the community, not only among pastors and people who attend church, but also the unchurched, as a station that deals with issues of relevance to the community and deals with them in a positive way.

**SUPPORTING DECLARATION**

I, John Bruce Thompson, hereby declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Florida and the United States of America that the forgoing "Declaration of Jack Thompson," consisting of four (4) pages, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Executed this 4th day of July, 1993.

*August 1st*  
*John B Thompson*  
John Bruce Thompson



**DECLARATION OF LONNIE LEE TOLBERT**

1. My name is Lonnie Lee Tolbert. I am the Pastor of Christ-Centared Life Ministries, P.O. Box 382, Hallandale, Florida, 33008. I reside at 6661 SW 18th Street, Miramar, Florida, 33025.

2. I am an African-American, and I have been a resident of the Miami area since 1980. I am submitting this Declaration to provide the Federal Communications Commission with my testimony concerning the contributions to the community's welfare made by WHFT-TV, Miami, during its last license term (February 1, 1987 to February 1, 1992).

3. Our ministry works primarily with inner-city residents with drug and alcohol addiction problems. Our area has a high percentage of people with drug and alcohol problems. And, while drug and alcohol addiction are the most destructive problems we deal with, we also provide literacy training and with help studying for their GED. Since 1988 I've appeared on "Feedback" at least twice, and on "Praise the Lord--South Florida" many, many times. Each time I've been on a show the experience was much the same. On PTL I am usually interviewed for about 15 to 30 minutes about our ministry and the drug and alcohol addicition programs in the inner-city, as well as concerning literacy and GED programs available to community residents. For example, in 1990 I was interviewed on the "Praise the Lord--South Florida" program about 30 minutes, discussing literacy and GED programs in the inner-city area. In 1989 I appeared on a "PTL" program with Bobby Rosario of "Hogar Renacer" ("Home of the Reborn"), a successful drug rehabilitation

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Emmons/TBF

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Reporter

W. W. W. W.

Date

11/24/93



center. We agreed on the need for a drug rehabilitation center in a highly drug invested area of Opa Locka. Mr. Rosario and I used the program as a platform to encourage community members to support the establishment of a center. The response to our appeal was very positive, and a drug rehab center in Opa Locka was ultimately established.

4. Every time I appeared on channel 45 we received a good response. We received contributions, of course, but people also called us to volunteer to help. We reaped the benefits of a number of willing hands. When we spoke about drug and alcohol addiction problems or about literacy programs, we usually received a response from people with alcohol and drug addiction problems or from people who wanted information about literacy programs. After I appeared on a PTL program in 1990 at least ten people came to our ministry as a result of seeing us on channel 45. Several had severe drug and alcohol addiction problems which are now in remission, some have gotten their high school diploma, and one has gone to College and gotten a job.

5. I am a regular viewer of WHFT, and I recommend to clients in our program that they watch channel 45. WHFT often broadcasts programming which is particularly responsive to the needs of the community. For example, during the license term I watched "Praise the Lord--South Florida" several times when the programs discussed important community issues such as drug and alcohol abuse, wife beating, abortion and alternatives to abortion, the programs available to help teenage mothers and their babies. The program

consistently featured local community members who were dealing with local problems and providing effective outreach to the community. WHFT programming is different in that it not only informs the community about its problems, it also provides information about the cure--the people and organizations in the community that are doing something about those problems. People who watch WHFT know where to go for help.

6. The station has a reputation for helping people and serving community needs. WHFT not only serves the community with its programming, but I have seen people form a line outside the WHFT studio to receive food and clothes from His Hand Extended. Channel 45 is also the only station that has a 24 hour prayer line where people who are lonely or need help can call a television station and receive that help. Our church and ministry has received a number of people referred to us after calling the channel 45 prayer line with a specific need or request for help. In 1991, during the Rodney King controversy, channel 45 took special care to interview and touch base with community leaders in the African-American community, with preachers, with gang members, with businessmen, with all those who were on the front line of coping with the anger in the African-American community. In another instance in 1991 an Evangelist, Jerry Davis, appeared on a channel 45 program, and announced that he was leading a special march to end gang violence in the Little Havana section of Miami. Channel 45 supported the march, gave it publicity, and provided information about problem of gangs. Rev. Davis led the march, met with leaders

of two rival gangs in Little Havana as well as members of the police department, and made peace, at least temporarily, between the gangs. No other station in the area covered the march, much less supported it. Channel 45 helped make it happen.

**SUPPORTING DECLARATION**

I, Lonnie Lee Tolbert, hereby declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Florida and the United States of America that the forgoing "Declaration of Lonnie Lee Tolbert," consisting of four (4) pages, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Executed this 6 day of aug, 1993.

By: Lonnie Lee Tolbert  
Lonnie Lee Tolbert

RECEIVED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**DECLARATION OF DAVID VEGA**

1. My name is David Vega. For the last three and one-half years I have been the Pastor of the Kendall Christian Center, located at 13501 SW 128th Street, suite 103, Miami, Florida, 33186. I reside at 13423 SW 101 Lane, Miami, Florida, 33186.

2. I have been a resident of the Miami area for some 17 years. I am Hispanic, and am bilingual (English-Spanish). I am submitting this Declaration to provide the Federal Communications Commission with my testimony concerning the contributions to the community's welfare made by WHFT-TV, Miami, during its last license term (February 1, 1987 to February 1, 1992).

3. From 1989 until the summer of 1991 I was a counsellor of "Glory of God," a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center for men located in the Khrome area. The Khrome area is located beyond 135th street in Miami, and is almost the beginning of the Everglades. "Glory of God" offered everyone who walked through the door a free interview, and anyone who wished to become part of the program received free drug and alcohol counselling. I appeared on the "Praise the Lord--South Florida" program during the summer of 1991 and was interviewed by the host for about 45 minutes. I talked about my experiences with drug and alcohol addicted men, and how addicted individuals fall prey to their addiction. I also discussed our program, and how there was a drug and alcohol rehabilitation program that was available in the area for free, eliminating the excuse that "I don't have the money to get help."

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During the show the name of the program, Glory of God, and the telephone number of the program was flashed on the screen a number of times.

4. Within about a week we received a great deal of response from my appearance on the show. Some people called and asked for information or advice about a drug or alcohol addicted individual in their family. We also received calls from people who needed help and wanted information about the program. Some people who saw the program on WHFT, I don't now remember how many, needed help with their drug and alcohol addiction problems and sought help from our program.

5. I also appeared on the "Praise the Lord--South Florida" program on two other occasions during 1991, in April and again in November. As a guest I was interviewed about what my ministry, now Kendall Christian Center, was doing for the community. At the time we had just started an outreach ministry to the migrant worker camps in South Florida, and I described what our church was doing to minister to the needs of migrant workers. One program occurred right before Thanksgiving in 1991, and we discussed the need for turkeys to distribute to migrant camp workers as well as for volunteers to help distribute the food to the camps. Following our appearance on the program we got help with both. WHFT donated some food and a number of turkeys to be distributed among the camp workers, and we also received donations of food and funds from others to assist the project. Following our appearance, and as a result of that appearance we also received a number of calls from



people asking about volunteering to distribute the food, and actually got two men as volunteers from these calls.

6. WHFT is unique among Miami area TV stations in that it has a prayer line where people who wish prayer or help can call and speak to a sympathetic voice. I have called the WHFT prayer line on a few occasions when I was discouraged about our ministry and asked for prayer. When I called people prayed with me and offered encouraging words. I know other people call the prayer line for help and encouragement as well. People often call the prayer line because they have a problem with drug or alcohol addiction, or because someone in their family has a drug or alcohol addiction dependency. When I was involved with "Glory of God" anyone who called the prayer line asking for help with a drug or alcohol addiction problem in the Khrome area was given the name and telephone number of our program. Moreover, people who called from our area and asked for help with a drug or alcohol problem were asked if they wanted someone to get in touch with them. If they said "yes" and gave their name and telephone number, the person who spoke to them on the prayer line would call us and give us that person's name and telephone number for follow-up. We would call these people, and some people who successfully completed our program were originally referrals from WHFT's prayer line.

7. My family and I have watched WHFT programming during the license term. I have not seen a program on another area TV station which treated the problems of drug and alcohol addiction as well as the program on which I appeared on channel 45. During the license